

STATE GOVERNMENT NEWS

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LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

Colorado -- The Colorado legislature adjourned February 19, ending a forty-five day session in which a record \$97 million was appropriated for general fund expenditures in fiscal 1960-61. Similar expenditures in the current fiscal year are expected to total about \$72.5 million. Most of the increase went to state support of public schools, up \$8 million to \$32 million; capital improvements, up \$8.4 million to \$9.9 million; higher education, up \$3.5 million to \$23.3 million; and state institutions, up \$2 million to \$17.1 million.

The rise in the capital improvements program results from the state's shift away from financing construction by anticipation warrants to a pay-as-you-go basis. Major capital outlays are \$4 million to start construction and operation of a new mental hospital at Fort Logan and \$3.3 million for construction of a new treatment facility at the State Home and Training School for Mentally Deficient Children at Ridge.

Distribution of the increased basic support of public schools was tied to a sales ratio formula designed to penalize counties that under-assess property for tax purposes and to give additional school funds to counties where property assessments are at a rate nearer market value. Also included in the school aid bill was a provision to raise support of the six junior colleges in the state from \$1,050 to \$2,100 for every seven full-time students.

The legislature authorized the Denver Metropolitan District to impose a 2 per cent sales tax, subject to voter approval. Governor Stephen L. R. McNichols has indicated he will seek a ruling from the State Supreme Court on the constitutionality of the measure before signing it. The Denver metropolitan area also was given permission to form a cooperative sewage treatment district, and the development of hospitals was aided by

approval for formation of hospital districts that cross county lines.

In other action the legislature authorized the State Supreme Court to promulgate rules of criminal trial procedure for all lower courts in the state; exempted non-profit organizations, particularly hospitals and colleges, from paying unemployment benefits to professional employees; and required labor contractors and crew leaders for migrant workers to furnish the latter with a statement of their earnings and deductions. The legislature up-dated the mortality table used in determining benefits under workmen's compensation and permitted spending of public funds for television booster stations to bring reception to rural communities outside the range of present stations and having no privately operated relay system.

Many of the measures reached the Governor's desk after the close of the session. He has thirty days following the adjournment date to sign or veto these acts before they automatically become law.

Correcting The Record -- The Winter Issue of *State Government*, in reporting "Action by the Legislatures: 1959," recorded that Vermont had authorized pari-mutuel betting. The measure, in fact, becomes effective only upon approval by the voters in a referendum to be held in November.

STATE BOATING ACTS

The United States Coast Guard has approved boating registration acts in twenty-three states. Federal numbering of boats will begin April 1, 1960, in states not having approved numbering systems.

The twenty-three states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

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CONSTITUTIONS

Mississippi Constitutional Study -- Yesterday's Constitution Today, a recent publication by the Bureau of Public Administration of the University of Mississippi, analyzes the present Mississippi constitution, adopted in 1890.

In an effort to provide information and analyses which might be helpful to the public in general and to those who are in positions of political leadership, the bureau requested a team of nine constitutional specialists to contribute to a symposium on the state's constitution. The volume is edited by Edward H. Hobbs, Director of the Bureau.

Separate chapters by individual authors are devoted to seven of the fifteen articles of the state constitution. The remaining articles are analyzed in a final chapter. Included are chapters on the legislature, the executive, the judiciary, corporations, suffrage and elections, and legislative apportionment. Recommendations for improvement of the constitution are contained at the end of each chapter.

The volume, of 165 pages, is available from the Bureau of Public Administration, University of Mississippi, University, Mississippi.

Historical Study of Constitution -- Pennsylvania Constitutional Development, by Rosalind L. Branning of the University of Pittsburgh, presents a history of the state's four constitutions and recent developments regarding amendment and revision. One section of the book traces the development of the constitutions of 1776, 1790 and 1838. A separate section discusses the present constitution, adopted in 1874. Twentieth century developments, the question of amendment or revision of the present constitution, and the recommendations of a Commission on Constitutional Revision created by the 1957 legislature, are included in a final section. The volume, of 166 pages, is extensively documented and contains a comprehensive bibliography. It is available from the University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh 13, Pennsylvania, for \$6.

Index Digest of State Constitutions -- The Legislative Drafting Research Fund of Columbia University has published the second edition of the Index Digest of State Constitutions. The first edition, prepared for the use of the New York State Constitutional Convention of 1915 was one of the major early projects of the fund. The Index provides a comparative statement of the provisions of all fifty state constitutions, arranged by subject. Most entries consist of a brief paragraph of the specific constitutional language with a citation to the article and section where the full provision may be found. However, the entries themselves are

detailed enough to answer the needs of many potential users, since provisions of similar effect from different state constitutions are grouped together in the same entry. The volume provides an invaluable guide to the constitutional provisions in all of the states. It will be kept current by periodic pocket supplements.

The Index Digest is distributed by Oceana Press, 80 Fourth Avenue, New York 3, New York, and is available from them for \$20.

GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Governors' Conference met at Convention Hall, Las Vegas, Nevada, February 21-22, under the chairmanship of Governor J. Caleb Boggs of Delaware. Governor Grant Sawyer of Nevada, a member of the committee, was host to the group.

Committee action included determination of the program for the 1960 Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference, which will be held at Glacier National Park, Montana, June 26-29. The committee gave preliminary approval, in principle, of a visit by an appropriate group of Governors to Argentina before the end of this year to participate in the celebration of the sesquicentennial of Argentina's independence. It supported continuation of the National Guard at full strength and recommended continued efforts for the development of necessary arrangements whereby the cooperative federal-state highway construction program will not falter.

The following members of the Executive Committee attended: Governors J. Caleb Boggs, Delaware, Chairman; James T. Blair, Jr., Missouri; Harold W. Handley, Indiana; Herschel C. Loveless, Iowa; Grant Sawyer, Nevada; and Robert E. Smylie, Idaho. Other Governors attending special meetings at Las Vegas participated as guests of the committee. These included Governors Edmund G. Brown, California; George D. Clyde, Utah; Paul Fannin, Arizona; Joseph J. Hickey, Wyoming; Stephen L. R. McNichols, Colorado; and Abraham A. Ribicoff, Connecticut. Darrell Coover, Executive Secretary to Governor J. Hugo Aronson of Montana, described the arrangements completed and under way for the 1960 Governors' Conference at Glacier.

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TAXES

Sales Taxes -- Kentucky will become the thirty-fifth sales tax state on July 1, 1960, when it imposes a new 3 per cent sales and use tax. Food is included in the tax base. Among exclusions are motor fuels, labor or services used in installing property sold, coal used in manufacturing electricity, livestock, poultry, feed, seed, fertilizer, and machinery for new and expanded industry. Also excluded is energy-producing fuel used in manufacturing, to the extent that it exceeds 3 per cent of the cost of production. The tax will be paid through monthly returns. The retailer is allowed to deduct 2 per cent from collections as compensation for costs.

With the adoption of a sales tax the legislature enacted several measures of income tax relief. A surtax, graduated from 10 to 30 per cent, has been repealed. A tax credit, allowed as a personal exemption for each taxpayer, spouse and dependent has been increased from \$13 to \$20. The amendments become effective on January 1, 1961.

Income Tax Withholding -- An income tax withholding measure has been enacted by the Georgia legislature and will go into effect May 1, 1960. The statute prescribes a rate of withholding designed to equal the liability which would result from applying the tax rate schedule after allowing the optional standard deduction, personal exemptions, and dependency deductions. The State Revenue Commissioner is required to construct optional withholding tax tables to reflect these provisions.

The statute also provides for declarations of estimated tax from persons whose gross income for the year can reasonably be expected to include more than \$1,000 from sources other than wages in excess of personal exemptions.

Mississippi Cuts Income Tax -- In an effort to balance agriculture with industry in Mississippi the legislature has enacted a bill gradually reducing the state's maximum 6 per cent income tax rate to 3 per cent. The 3 per cent reduction will take the form of a 1/2 per cent annual reduction beginning in 1961. The present income tax range is from 2 per cent on the first \$5,000 to a top of 6 per cent on earnings over \$25,000. Revenue losses under the new law when the new maximum is reached will be \$10.4 million. It is expected that a rise in payrolls will bolster the economy sufficiently to offset the revenue losses.

The tax reduction is part of a "new industrial bill of rights" advocated by Governor Ross R. Barnett. Also in the Governor's program to attract industry are two companion measures now before the legislature. One would create the Mississippi Industrial and Technological Research Commission and the other would establish an internal de-

velopment plan. The latter is designed to analyze the state's natural resources and aid in the formation of Mississippi owned industries for their processing.

Other items in the program, now in legislative committees, would give engineering aid to local communities in the development of industrial parks as sites for new plants and establish a forestry bank to offer low interest loans to land owners for the re-forestation of their idle acres.

Report of Tax Commission -- The first report of a South Carolina Tax Study Commission has been presented to the 1960 legislature. Major sections of the report are devoted to recommendations on property taxes, income taxes, and the administration, collection and enforcement of the tax laws. In addition to general explanations, the report includes specific recommendations to the legislature and proposed laws to implement the suggested changes.

Among recommendations concerning the property tax the commission proposed: (1) that the constitution of 1895 be amended to eliminate every requirement that all property be taxed at a uniform rate; (2) provision by tax commission of manuals and other assistances to counties in the assessment of property; (3) designation of a member of the commission as Property Tax Commissioner to supervise property tax assistance and administration; and (4) further study of assessment of automobiles and merchants' inventories, with a view to correcting present inequities.

Proposals on the income tax urged simplification, modernization and codification of the statutes. On administration, collection and enforcement, the commission proposed centralized authority, additional administrative assistants and more equipment.

Property Taxes -- The General Property Tax: Findings of the 1957 Census of Governments, by Frederick L. Bird, has been published by Public Administration Service. The report summarizes the findings of the census and undertakes to show how they relate to the financial position of local governments.

The census surveys placed on a comparable basis nationally three kinds of information vital to the productivity, dependability and equitable administration of an ad valorem tax on real estate. These were: (1) determination of the tax load among the major use classes of property; (2) estimates on the relation between assessed and market value of taxable realty; and (3) the problems of local assessing and assessing standards.

The new report, using the census data, relates the nature of the property tax, its revenues, assessed values for general property taxation, problems of assessment administration, the relationship between assessed value and market value of locally assessed real property, and intra-area and

inter-area uniformity in local assessment administration. A separate chapter is devoted to the regulatory role of the states. There are seventeen tables, including several with state by state figures for the property tax and assessed values. The report, of 88 pages, is available from the Public Administration Service, 1313 East Sixtieth Street, Chicago 37, Illinois, for \$3.

HIGHWAYS

Highway Data Processing -- The Montana State Highway Department has installed a digital computer capable of storing more than 2,000 units of information to speed up the design of roadways and record keeping on them. By feeding all topographic information on a proposed route into the machine and then feeding it the required design, the best route can be processed at the rate of six miles an hour. The computer is also used to process the department's payroll for 1,700 employees. It completes payroll processing in ten hours; formerly this operation took much of a clerk's working time.

Highway Safety Program -- Governor David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania has announced a comprehensive highway safety program, providing for driver examination, certificates from physicians concerning physical fitness of driver license applicants and new schedules of penalties for traffic violations.

The new program will require re-examination of all drivers every ten years and re-examination every five years for drivers over 60. Eventually the plan will require that applications for renewal or for new licenses be accompanied by certificates from physicians concerning the physical fitness of the applicant. Minimum standards for physical fitness have already been established, and this phase of the program will go into effect later this year.

Part of the program sets up new schedules of penalties for traffic violations, including provisions for mandatory suspension or revocation for various offenses. Other aspects include examination of safe driver clinics conducted by the state police, the holding of annual traffic safety conferences, creation of an interdepartmental safety council, establishment of the Office of Commissioner of Traffic Safety, use of the uniform traffic arrest ticket and establishment of uniform schedules for licensing commercial vehicles.

As part of the new program the state traffic engineering bureau will extend its activities to improve roadway markings and signs. Courts throughout the state will be encouraged to establish training schools for all traffic offenders, and communities will be asked to set up safety seminars. The state police plan to use radar units for educational purposes, although they do not have legislative authority to use radar for actual enforcement of speed regulations.

Use of chemical tests for intoxication will be encouraged. Such tests are recognized in some county courts in the state.

Highway Condemnation Proceedings -- Utah has instituted a new policy of "farming out" legal work usually performed by the Attorney General's office on condemnation proceedings for the State Road Commission. Attorney General Walter L. Budge said the new legal approach has been taken to meet the greatly expanded activities of the commission in buying land for highway expansion -- chiefly the interstate highway system. Contracts for legal work are made with private law firms on the basis of time needed for preparing a case and the number of days spent in court.

The Attorney General cited three advantages in hiring private lawyers within the area where right-of-way is being acquired: (1) local resentment toward government is less likely to occur when local counsel rather than the Attorney General's office represents the state; (2) costs of condemnation procedures are considered part of state construction outlays that are reimbursable up to 95 per cent by the federal government on interstate highways, but the state is not reimbursed for legal work when it is handled by the Attorney General's office; and (3) the Attorney General's staff is freed for other duties.

Motor Carrier Registration -- The Florida Railroad and Public Utilities Commission has begun issuing cab cards in lieu of outside metal identifying number plates for motor carriers. The cards identify the motor carrier's right to operate in the state, and will be the only evidence of registration of a particular vehicle with the commission. The Committee to Promote Uniformity in the Regulation of Motor Carriers of the National Association of Railroad and Utilities Commissioners recently recommended this method of registration, and the National Conference of State Transportation Specialists has approved in principle this approach to uniformity.

DRIVER EDUCATION

Course for State Employees -- California state employees who drive state-owned cars have been directed by Governor Edmund G. Brown to take a driver training course by June 30, 1961. Noting that the cost of accidents involving state cars totals about \$2.5 million annually, the Governor anticipated that expenditures of between \$160,000 and \$200,000 on the training program would reduce state accident costs by about 35 per cent, or more than \$750,000. He pointed out that the state cannot expect ordinary citizens to meet the demands of the state's tough enforcement of traffic laws unless state employees driving official cars observe all laws and drive safely.

Senior Drivers -- Michigan State University's Highway Traffic Safety Center has inaugurated a new kind of driver education course -- for drivers over 65. The course is being given to a group of senior drivers in a series of four weekly sessions of two hours each. It is designed to help older drivers maintain and improve their driving skills.

EDUCATION

Community Colleges -- The Board of Trustees of State Colleges in Rhode Island has recommended establishment of three community colleges in the state. The recommendations implement a proposal made by a higher education study commission a year ago.

In a report to the Governor and the legislature, the board suggested that the colleges be established over a six year period under its supervision. Each college would provide two years of instruction in liberal arts, vocational and technical programs. The report estimated that construction costs would be \$2 million for each institution; operating budgets of \$350,000 per year would be required for the proposed enrollment, of 500 students at each college.

The board recommended that the 1960 session of the legislature authorize establishment of the three colleges and that future sessions provide the funds to finance their construction and operation.

Textbook Decision -- A recent decision of an Oregon State Circuit Court has upheld the Oregon City School District's practice of furnishing textbooks to a parochial school. Circuit Judge Ralph M. Holman said he reached the decision reluctantly but felt required to follow a 1947 United States Supreme Court decision upholding the constitutionality of public bus transportation for parochial school students in New Jersey. Under that interpretation, Judge Holman said, if direct aid is permissible, an indirect one must be.

WELFARE

Child Adoption -- An Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children has been developed by the New York State Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation. It was reviewed carefully by a group of officials from twelve states at a meeting in New York on January 22. The draft of the compact, approved by this group, has been distributed for consideration by the states. A bill ratifying it has been introduced in New York, and similar legislation is expected to be introduced in other states this year.

The proposed compact provides that children may not be brought into a state for placement in foster care or for adoption without notification to and approval by appropriate public agencies in the receiving state. No child may be placed in another

state by either a public or private agency until the public authorities in the receiving state agree that the proposed placement is not contrary to the child's interests. The compact also provides that agencies sending children into other states for placement shall retain jurisdiction over them to insure that they receive adequate care and treatment.

Copies of the compact may be obtained from the New York Joint Legislative Committee on Interstate Cooperation, 36 West 44th Street, New York 36, New York.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE AGED

The Bureau of Labor Standards of the United States Department of Labor has published a report listing states which as of August, 1959, have laws pertaining to employment of older persons.

Legislation prohibiting discriminatory practices in employment in private industry because of age are in force in seven states: Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Wisconsin. In all but Rhode Island the provision is included in the state's fair employment practice act.

Three older acts not tied in with FEP Acts are on the statute books of Louisiana (1934), Colorado (1935), and Massachusetts (1937). Laws relating to administrative functions in this field have been passed by six states. Massachusetts (1954) was the first to set up a specific division to deal expressly with problems of older workers -- followed by Michigan (1955), New York (1956), Pennsylvania (1956), Oregon (1957), and California (1959).

In 1958 three states -- Maryland, New Jersey and Michigan passed laws providing for studies to be made of older workers.

ATOMIC ENERGY

Fall-Out Protection -- Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller of New York has endorsed recommendations of the New York State Committee on Fall-Out Protection urging construction of fall-out shelters by all property owners in the state.

The committee recommended that legislation be enacted requiring construction of shelters in all existing buildings by July 1, 1963, and in all new buildings on which construction begins after January 1, 1962. Minimum survival supplies and equipment would be required to be maintained in all shelters. Standards for shelter construction would be set by law, and local authorities would be made primarily responsible to administer and enforce the requirements.

A special income tax deduction would be permitted to assist taxpayers in meeting the cost of shelter construction. Also, low interest loans from the state would be made available for persons unable to obtain other means of financing. Shelters would be excluded in determining the value of property for tax purposes.

It is estimated that the cost of the shelter construction program would approximate \$1.5 billion.

Atomic Industrial Park -- New Jersey officials have submitted to the Atomic Energy Commission a proposal for establishment of an atomic industrial park on the shore of Delaware Bay.

The proposed site would provide space for such installations as a plant for processing radioactive waste, facilities for handling atomic powered ships, and a hospital and research center for treatment of persons affected by radioactive injuries. An atomic reactor also might be constructed on the site.

Under the plan the state would assemble the required land, make it available to builders and provide assistance to concerns interested in constructing facilities in the area. The park, which would be the first of its kind in the United States, requires approval of the AEC; it would need to issue necessary licenses for the various installations. Before doing so the commission must find that the facilities would not adversely affect the health and safety of residents in the surrounding area.

New Jersey already has a number of industries, agencies and projects using radioactive materials and involved in the development of nuclear energy.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Police Training Program -- All municipal police officers appointed in New York after July 1, will have to complete a two week's basic training program. Regulations implementing a 1959 law which requires such training have just been issued.

The new program makes New York the first state to require minimum training for all newly appointed local police officers. They must complete at least eighty hours of instruction in basic police work, including the enforcement of penal and traffic laws, the law of arrests, techniques in making arrests, use of firearms, handling of juveniles, methods of crime detection and civil rights of citizens.

Training will be provided through programs set up by individual localities or groups of communities in various areas of the state. All training programs must be approved by the Municipal Police Training Council, a state agency established by the 1959 law. The new requirements do not affect New York City, since it already requires new police officers to complete a three month course at its police academy.

Iowa Magazine Ban Upheld -- A Federal District Judge has ruled that Attorney General Norman A. Erbe of Iowa has authority under Iowa law to ban magazines on newsstands that, in the Attorney General's opinion, contain obscene

material. The ruling came on a suit filed by publishers asking for an injunction restraining the Attorney General from interfering with distribution and sale of the publications. The Judge said the only issue in the case was whether or not the Attorney General pre-judged future issues of the magazines in requesting county attorneys last September to file criminal actions against the magazines if they appeared on newsstands around the state. The court found there had been no pre-judging of the magazines.

Arrests and Individual Rights -- Attorney General John J. O'Connell of Massachusetts has prepared a pamphlet entitled "If You Are Arrested." It includes discussion of the act of arrest, an individual's rights in a police station and his rights in court. The pamphlet covers such matters as the conditions under which an arrest may be made, a person's rights during interrogation, bail, indictment and right of appeal. It was published by the Attorney General in cooperation with the Boston Bar Association and the Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts and will be distributed through schools and other agencies and organizations. It will also be available in police stations.

Parole Policy -- The New York State Parole Board has reported on their experience in releasing inmates in the state's prisons on parole even though they do not have guaranteed employment. Before 1959, assurance of employment was a pre-condition for parole.

The board now takes into consideration the home situation of the inmate, whether he has a marketable skill which makes it probable that he can obtain employment once he is released, and whether there are community agencies to assist him. In a six month's study of the program the board found that 221 out of 241 inmates who were paroled without having secured employment beforehand did so within an average of sixteen days. The release program, plus changes in administrative techniques and a larger staff, resulted in release of 5,291 persons on parole in 1959, compared with 4,267 in 1958. Although the number of parolees under supervision by the board has increased, the rate of parole violations has remained almost the same.

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES

Security Dismissals Upheld -- The United States Supreme Court has upheld a state's right to dismiss employees who refuse to answer a Congressional Committee's questions about alleged subversive activities.

At issue was a California statute making it the duty of all public employees to answer questions about subversion before state or federal investigating bodies. Anyone failing to answer on any ground whatsoever was deemed guilty of insubordination and subject to suspension and dismissal.

The court distinguished between the California statute and a New York City ordinance which was deemed unconstitutional in 1956 (Slochow case) because it provided for automatic dismissal of any city employee who invoked the privilege against self incrimination. At that time, the court said the plea of the self incrimination privilege equated under the city ordinance with a confession of guilt -- a faulty equation under the Fifth Amendment.

The California statute, the court said, does not predicate discharge on any built-in inference of guilt, but solely on employee insubordination for failure to give information which has been held as a legitimate state interest.

PLANNING

New Jersey Regional Planning -- Plans have been announced in New Jersey for creation of a regional planning agency involving a 1,000 square mile area in two counties.

The area concerned is known as the Pinelands region. Although it includes thirty-three municipalities and has an estimated population of 94,000, it is described as largely an undeveloped region. The proposed planning agency would be recognized under the New Jersey Regional Planning Act of 1935 and would be charged with responsibility of developing a comprehensive, long range general plan and for recommending an action program to put the plan into effect.

The proposal for establishment of the agency was made by a committee of state and county planners. The committee proposed that the agency be headed by a board comprising ten residents of the region and one representative of the New Jersey Department of Conservation and Economic Development.

Advisory Planning Commission -- Governor George D. Clyde of Utah has announced plans for establishment of an Advisory Planning Commission to coordinate the work of all state and local agencies in water resources planning, highway development, school construction, public buildings and other projects whose operations concern the several levels of government in the state. Representatives on the commission will include officials from state departments, cities, counties, school districts and regional groups.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

State Publication -- Governor Robert E. Smylie of Idaho has announced plans for publication of a quarterly review of business conditions in the state. The first issue is scheduled to appear this spring. It will be published by the State Department of Commerce and Development under the direction of Department Secretary Louise Shaddock. The publication will allow business news of importance to be disseminated

to other regions and will supply Idaho businessmen with quick, accurate and readable news and data. The periodical will include information on sales, finances, employment, labor force and construction, and a quarterly forecast of business conditions.

Planning and Development Committees -- A committee composed of business and industrial leaders in Oregon has been appointed by Governor Mark O. Hatfield to assist the State Department of Planning and Development in increasing industrial and business activity. The committee is the first of three citizen advisory groups to be named by the Governor. It will assist in creating new industrial firms in the state. Two other committees to be set up will study Oregon's business climate, make recommendations for improving it and advise on financing and credit matters relating to expansion of existing industry and attraction of new industry.

(See also "Mississippi Cuts Income Tax," page 3.)

LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES

A Legislative Processes Study Committee of the Indiana Legislative Advisory Commission has recommended a plan for streamlining the committee systems of both houses of the legislature. Under the plan the number of committees in each house would be pared to twenty-seven, as compared to forty-three in the House and thirty-nine in the Senate under the present system. The decrease would be accomplished by combining committees dealing with similar topics. Another proposal would identify the reconstituted committees with similar names in both houses.

Two other committees of the advisory commission are examining vocational education and penal institutions. A Vocational Education Study Committee was created in October, 1959, to survey the need for training for both young people and older workers displaced by technological advances; adequacy of present facilities and personnel; methods of improving the programs; and means available for practical cooperation between industry and unions in providing vocational training.

The possibility of creating a full-time professional parole board and the advantages of using camps for youthful offenders are among subjects being investigated by a Penal Institutions Study Committee.

ELECTRONIC DATA PROCESSING

Electronic Payroll System -- The Division of Budgeting and Accounting in the New Jersey Department of Treasury has developed a centralized electronic payroll system. Central computation and preparation of payrolls is performed by electronic "memory" equipment which only requires information on how long each employee worked during the pay

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period. In addition to customary details showing amounts deducted for various purposes from an employee's salary, the check stub also furnishes year-to-date and other cumulative data for the employee's information.

The first payroll processed by the new equipment occurred after more than seven months of intense activity study, and required a complete revision of payroll procedures and personnel form processing. A payroll manual also has been developed.

The state anticipates that in addition to handling a completely centralized payroll, the new computer will enable the division to relieve individual departments of the burden of certain accounting functions and will permit the state to utilize data by-products for improvement of agency administration.

MIDWESTERN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

The first meeting of the Midwestern Agriculture Committee was held in Des Moines, Iowa, February 22-23, with the Iowa Commission on Interstate Cooperation as host. The committee was formed by resolution of the Midwestern Regional Conference of the Council of State Governments at its 1959 annual meeting for the purpose of promoting better interstate cooperation as regards agriculture. Membership is composed of two legislators from each of twelve midwestern states, appointed by the Chairman of the Commission on Interstate Cooperation in each state.

General discussion sessions during the two day meeting dealt with organization and functions of state departments of agriculture and the Iowa Agricultural Law Center. Other topics of discussion included coordination of agricultural research, marketing of farm surpluses, tax burdens on farmers, plant and animal quarantine in Great Lakes states,

problems of interstate shipment of dairy products and seed, and uniform laws on animal diseases and agricultural seed.

Permanent officers of the committee, elected at the closing session, are Senator David Davis, Illinois, Chairman; Representative John Gray, Iowa, Vice Chairman; Representative John E. Kissner, Iowa, Secretary.

Three subcommittees were authorized to work on problems of plant and animal quarantine, interstate transportation of livestock, and state responsibility concerning residues, pesticides and herbicides. An Advisory Committee of State Directors of Agriculture was authorized for consultation on various agricultural problems. Representatives of the Farm Bureau, Farmers' Union, the Grange and land-grant colleges in the Midwest also will be consulted.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Two counties, a city, a school district and the State of Oregon have entered into a Compact of Voluntary Intergovernmental Cooperation to cope with the many problems resulting from rapid urban population growth in the state's Mid-Willamette Valley. The counties of Marion and Polk, the City of Salem, the Salem Metropolitan School District, and the state approved the compact to provide for joint cooperation in solving such urban problems as health, education, safety, transportation and recreation.

The compact establishes an Intergovernmental Cooperation Council comprising the elected heads of the five principal governmental units involved in the area -- the Governor, two county judges, the chairman of the school board and the Mayor. Provision is also made for rotating representation on the council for other governmental units in the area.

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